MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Are not the Government aware that *Chitties* are co-operative organisations of indigenous growth?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): What is there to prevent these benefits, now accorded to co-operative societies, being extended to *Chitties* also?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): The question has to be considered.

Office Peons employed by the Superintendent, Stamp Manufactory, as domestic servants.

377. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(1) how many peons are permitted to work in the house of the Superintendent, Stamp Manufactory, and how many are actually working there now; and

(2) whether it is a fact that a Nair peon is deputed to carry meals for the Superintendent and for his children at school and take back the remnants?

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*):

(1) One of the three peons of the Stamp Manufactory has been and is still retained as a personal peon.

(2) The answer is in the negative.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know the nature of the work that is expected to be done by these personal peons?

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): It is a general question.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): I rise to a point of order. When a supplementary qestion is put to an official member, should it not be answered although it is a general question? With respect to the supplementary question put by my friend Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai, the Financial Secretary merely stated that it was a general question, and did not answer it.

PRESIDENT: As the Member who put the supplementary question sat down, it was thought that he did not want to pursue the matter further.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): He did not want it, Sir. But as a matter of principle may I know whether a general question need not be answered at all?

PRESIDENT: The Member who put the supplementary question sat down as if he was quite satisfied with the answer although he was entitled to pursue the matter further.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): All right, Sir; I shall myself put a general question and see whether it is answered or not.

PRESIDENT: Yes, put a test question like that.

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